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Station number of document : STATE

Date of document : 1 Oct 1948

Title of document : Rumanian Resistance Movement--
Internal--Aspects of Gafencu-Cos
Memo of Conversation with Mr.
Nickels of SE Concerning Rumania
Exile Controvers

Document to be filed in : 62-7-1-23

Cross-reference form to be filed in : ☐ no serial

Excerpt of pertinent information:

Mr. Cretzianu called upon me at 4 p.m., September 29, 1948, by appointment. . . with reference to a memorandum of conversation of Grigore Gafencu and Brutus Coste with me concerning the Department's position in relation to the controversy of the Rumanian exiles over the proposed formation of a Rumanian national committee

Mr. Cretzianu said that he had a copy of the memorandum which had been given to King Michael by General Radescu and was now being circulated among Rumanian exiles in Paris. In particular, he wished to inquire about a statement attributed to me which seemed to refer specifically to him. . .

P. 1--It is understood that this text of the memorandum was shown recently to King Michael by General Radescu who made a trip to France to see him in this regard. . .

P. 2--Mr. Cretzianu wanted to know what he had done against Mr. Davila that would subject him to a possible loss of the Department good will. Had he ever complained to me about Mr. Davila or brought me "documents" in an effort to damage him? On the contrary he had written to Mr. Maniu and General Radescu in high praise of Mr. Davila. . . I told Cretzianu, I had emphasized in my actual statement that what I said was not to be construed as an endorsement by the Department or myself of Mr. Davila or any other Rumanian exile. . . that a somewhat similar observation might be made with reference to General Radescu. . . I acknowledge that Mr. Cretzianu had not previously made attacks on Davila to me. I said I was aware that he had reportedly at an earlier date praised Davila highly to General Radescu. . .

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P. 6--After Mr. Cretzianu's departure I compared the phraseology of his excerpt, allegedly from the Gafencu-Coste memorandum as presented to Michael by General Radescu, with the text of the memorandum which . . . gave a substantially correct purport of my conversation with them and of the Department's position

P. 7--I then informed General Radescu's secretary, Mr. Niculescu, by phone that Mr. Cretzianu apparently had a faulty text of the memorandum. . . (Mr. Niculescu's) conjecture about the text which Cretzianu had was that General Radescu had with him a prior draft of the memorandum (which otherwise only Brutus Coste and Himself possessed) and that while the General was awaiting the arrival of the corrected text he may have shown the early draft to some of the interested exiles in Paris who forwarded a copy to Cretzianu.

Postscript: A letter in this regard has been received today from Mr. Cretzianu dated and postmarked October 1, 1948 which refers again to an inaccurate version of the Gafencu-Coste memorandum and gives no indication of Cretzianu's having received a copy or of having heard from me that there is in existence a substantially accurate text of this memorandum as is understood to have been given to Michael by General Radescu.

This is all the pertinent information on subject in this document.

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